

Children and Family Services

Independent Living Program Youth Attend Computer Boot Camp, Receive Free Computers and Printers

HS Connection Staff

San Bernardino County's Children and Family Services (CFS) foster youth enrolled in the Independent Living Program (ILP) attended an intense, free two-day Computer Boot Camp May 4 and 5. The two-day Computer Boot Camp was taught by instructors from New Horizons Computer Learning Centers of Southern California and provided youth with basic computer skills to assist them with their educational and vocational goals. Youth between the ages of 16—18 who attended the camp are preparing to emancipate and have ambitions to further their education and/or plan to attend college or a vocational school.

CFS' ILP sponsored the first two-day workshop in May. Sponsorship included laptop computers and printers awarded to each youth who completed the two-day Computer Boot Camp. A second camp was sponsored by the Children's Fund June 1 and 2.

"I thought the class was an amazing opportunity to learn more about technology we use every day," said Rachael J., a class attendee. "The free laptop and printer was just a bonus. I am very privileged to have taken this two-day class."

The free laptop computer and printer will assist the youth in searching websites for future jobs and filling out college applications, which they learned how to effectively do at the Boot Camp.

"These very important resources (laptop and printer) provided to the attendees will go a long way," said Hugo Castellanos, Supervising Social Service Practitioner. "It is vital to their education in that it gives emancipating youth the support and tools they need to succeed as they transition to adulthood."



Attendees Rachael J. and Janeth G.



Attendee Emily T. shows her new laptop



Justyn K. carries his new printer to the car